**Hamlet Review**

**Characters:**

**Hamlet** – Son of King Hamlet and Gertrude, nephew of Claudius

**King** **Hamlet** – King of Denmark, father of Hamlet, brother of Claudius

**Gertrude** – Mother of Hamlet, ex-wife to King Hamlet and current wife to Claudius

**Polonius** – Friend of Claudius, father of Ophelia and Laertes

**Ophelia** – early love interest of Hamlet, daughter of Polonius

**Laertes** – son of Polonius

**Horoatio** – a guard at Hamlet’s castle, a very trustworthy and grounded person.

**Fortinbras** – Prince of Norway

**What You Need To Know:**

(In bullet point form because apparently my rambling summaries are too much)

* The ghost of King Hamlet appears to Hamlet, Horatio and other guards and explains to them that the current king and his brother Claudius is the one who killed him.
* Hamlet acts crazy and everyone thinks it’s because he is madly in love with Ophelia, but it’s quite the opposite in reality. Hamlet explains his pessimistic view on society while Polonius and Claudius eavesdrop.
* Hamlet puts on a play depicting his father’s death to try and arouse a reaction from Claudius to see if the ghost’s story was true, which ends with Claudius storming out in anger.
* Hamlet has a talk with his mother explaining his discrepancies with her actions and proceeds to stab and murder an eavesdropper, Polonius.
* After Polonius’ death, Ophelia goes insane and Laertes storms back to avenge his father’s death.
* Claudius can no longer conceal Hamlets murder of Polonius and tries to send him off to England to get murdered, which ends up with the king’s men getting murdered and Hamlet being brought back on ransom.
* Laertes challenges Hamlet to a duel to settle the dispute but isn’t aware it’s fixed for his death with poison in his gauntlet and on the tip of Polonius’ sword.
* Gertrude accidentally drinks the gauntlet water and she dies, Hamlet and Laertes are both touched with the sword so they die, Hamlet forces Claudius to drink the poison so he dies, Ophelia committed suicide earlier so she died, and Horatio was going to attempt suicide and drink the poison but Hamlet urges him to stay alive.
* Fortinbras conveniently arrives right after everything happens and is given permission by Hamlet to lay claim to the throne of Denmark.